GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:709
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2016
Devolution of Power to Panchayats
Bidhuri Shri Ramesh

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state whether the Ministry has developed any formula to devolve more power and functions to the Panchayats, if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

Panchayats being 'Local Bodies' is a State subject mandated under Part IX and List II (State List) of Seventh Schedule (Article 246) of the Constitution of India. The Panchayati Raj system has been structured according to the relevant provisions in the Constitution. Under Article 243G of the Constitution, State Legislatures are to endow, to the Panchayats with powers and authority to enable them to function as institutions of self-governments. Article 243G allows discretion to the States in the matter of devolution of powers to Panchayats and States vary significantly in the extent to which they have devolved powers to the Panchayats to plan, implement and monitor schemes for economic development and social justice.

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj conducts an annual study to assess the extent of devolution of powers to various tiers of Panchayats. States have been encouraged to devolve powers (Functions, Functionaries and Finances) to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) through advisories and incentivization of States that devolve most powers to PRIs.

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